Draft
Report of Soil Remedial Goals and Estimated Excess Cancer Risk Relationships
Former Hunters Point Naval Shipyard, San Francisco, California

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1 Introduction

This report describes the estimated excess cancer risks associated with current soil residential remediation goals (RGs) as designated in the 2006 Action Memorandum (AM) (NAVFAC, 2006) for the former Hunters Point Naval Shipyard (HPNS) in San Francisco, California.

HPNS was placed on the National Priorities List in 1989 and the Department of the Navy (DON) has been undertaking response actions under its Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) authority in each parcel. Current soil RGs for each of the radionuclides of concern (ROCs) are presented in **Table 1**. The RGs were derived considering the 1991 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) decay-corrected preliminary remediation goals (PRG) (EPA, 1991), past action memoranda, and an agreement with EPA for radium (Ra)-226 (^{226}Ra). Action memoranda before the one issued in 2006 were published in 2000 and 2001 and assumed commercial reuse scenarios only.

The EPA's Preliminary Remediation Goals (PRG) for Radionuclides Calculator (available online at https://epa-prgs.ornl.gov/cgi-bin/radionuclides/rprg_search; last updated in May 2018) has been used here to estimate cancer risks associated with the current HPNS RGs . Use of the PRG Calculator, input parameters, and results are summarized below. PRG Calculator outputs are provided as attachments.

2 Use of the PRG Calculator

The EPA PRG calculator can be used with default or site-specific parameter values. Default parameter values often result in over-conservative risk estimates and are most appropriate to develop screening values. Site-specific parameter values are appropriate to more accurately estimate a site's resultant excess cancer risk to receptors and where it falls relative to the risk management range that is considered protective under CERCLA (10^{-6} to 10^{-4}). The EPA PRG calculator was used, with site-specific adjustments, to estimate the cancer risk associated with the 2006 Residential Soil RGs. Site-specific adjustments were made to the input activity concentrations (activities), site area size and the city as described in the following sections.

While using the PRG calculator, the following options were selected:

- Select Scenario: Resident
- Select Media: Soil
- Select PRG Type: Site-specific
  - Select Isotope Info Type: Database hierarchy defaults
- Select Risk Output: Yes
- Show Individual Produce PRG Output: No
- Select Individual Isotopes: ROCs, see **Table 1**
- PRG output options: select "Provide results for progeny throughout chain (with decay)"
- Hit Retrieve
- User-provided Inputs: Half Life values changed for short-lived progenies as discussed below
- Media Concentrations: see **Section 2.1** and **Table 1**
- Resident Exposure to Soil:
  - Site area for area correction factor (ACF): 2,000 m^2 (see **Section 2.2**)
  - Clean soil thickness for GSF_o: 0 cm
  - Clean soil thickness for GSF_b: 0 cm
- Particulate Emission Factor Wind Driven:
  - City (Climatic Zone): San Francisco, CA (see **Section 2.3**)

    - Acres: 0.5 acres
    - V (fraction of vegetative cover): 0.5
- Resident Exposure to Produce: Default Resident
- Select Produce Items to Include: Deselect Toggle All (removes produce from output)
- Hit Retrieve

The Resident Soil scenario was selected because it is historically the most protective scenario and is consistent with the anticipated reuse of portions of HPNS. Onsite resident exposure results from incidental ingestion of soil, inhalation of fugitive dust, and external exposure to soil contaminant radiation. To account for decay of the parents and progenies during an assumed 26-year exposure period, the PRG output option, "Provide results for progeny throughout chain (with decay)" was used for all calculations. Input activity concentrations were adjusted using branching fractions and radon emanation factors as in **Section 2.1.1 and 2.1.2**. Adjustments to the site area for ACF and the city are described in **Section 2.2 and 2.3**. The consumption of home-grown produce was suppressed based on projected institutional controls by unchecking the "Toggle All" box in the Resident Exposure to Produce section.

2.1 Media Concentration Adjustments

The term radionuclide refers to any nuclide that is unstable and undergoes radioactive decay. Radioactive decay is the spontaneous transformation of the unstable nuclide (parent) into one or more nuclides (daughters or progenies) with an accompanying release of energy or particles. The production of these progenies is referred to as "ingrowth." For a given radionuclide, the rate of decay is characterized as the half-life ($T_{1/2}$) and is the average time for half of the initial radionuclide activity (in picocuries, pCi) to decay.

"Radioactivity" or, in short, "activity" (A), is the rate of radioactive decay, i.e., the number of nucleus transformations per unit time, and is directly proportional to the number of unstable nuclei in a source. The units of activity are curies (Ci) or becquerels (Bq). One Bq represents one disintegration (decay or transformation) per second (dps), and 1 Ci = 3.7E+10 Bq. One Ci involves a large number of transformations; therefore, a smaller unit, pCi, is often used, which is equivalent to 1E-12 Ci. Activity concentration of a radionuclide is defined as the activity (in Ci or Bq) per mass or volume of environmental media (e.g., pCi/g, pCi/L).

Progenies can either be stable or radioactive. If the progeny is radioactive, decay will continue until a stable nuclide is reached. This series of decay is referred to as a radionuclide decay chain. In some cases, the risk from the progeny may near or exceed that of the parent and, in these cases, it is important to evaluate the ingrowth and the activities of each radionuclide in a decay chain.

To account for the ingrowth and loss of progenies, two factors were used to adjust the 2006 Soil RGs for use in the PRG calculator. The Branching Fraction and the Radon Emanation Factor are described below. The calculator input activity (i.e., media concentration for the PRG calculator) is then the product of the applicable 2006 Soil RG, branching fraction and radon emanation factor for each ROC and progeny.

2.1.1 Branching Fraction

To allow the maximum time for ingrowth of progenies from radioactive sources containing the ROCs in Table 1, sources are assumed to have been placed into use at HPNS in 1946 with the establishment of the Radiation Laboratory, the predecessor to the Naval Radiological Defense Laboratory (NRDL). The

period from 1946 to date, plus an assumed 26-year exposure period of near-term residents, is approximately 100 years. Any progeny reaching at least 10 percent of its parent's activity within this 100-year period was considered significant and was included in the pathway analysis modeling. To determine these activities, unit activities (1 pCi) for each ROC were entered in the Decay Chain Activity Projection Tool (https://rais.ornl.gov/cgi-bin/chain/chain.pl) developed by Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL). Progeny are produced via a specific mode of decay of their parent radionuclides. The probability that the parent decays by that mode is called the branching fraction. For example, ^{137}Cs decays 94.7% of the time to radioactive ^{137m}Ba and only 5.3% of the time to the stable ^{137}Ba. The branching fraction of ^{137}Cs decay to ^{137m}Ba is then 0.947 and for each 1 pCi/g of ^{137}Cs, there can exist no more than 0.947 pCi/g of ^{137m}Ba. ROC and progeny branching fractions are presented in **Table 1**.

2.1.2 Radon Emanation Factor

Radon (^{222}Rn) is a progeny formed in the decay chain of ^{226}Ra. As a gas, a portion of ^{222}Rn escapes ^{226}Ra-contaminated soil into air and is lost, called radon emanation. Because of this loss, the activity of all ^{222}Rn progenies is reduced to the fraction of ^{222}Rn that remains, called the radon emanation factor, *F*. The EPA PRG calculator does not supply a term for radon emanation. The losses are accounted for by adjusting the input concentrations of the ^{226}Ra chain. In soil, *F* for radon ranges usually between 10-40% with typical values of 20%: see page 123 in http://resrad.evs.anl.gov/docs/data_collection.pdf.

Similarly, Thoron or Radon-220 (^{220}Rn) is a progeny formed in the decay chain of ^{232}Th. As a gas, a portion of ^{220}Rn escapes a ^{232}Th-contaminated soil and is lost, such that the activity of all ^{220}Rn progenies is reduced to the fraction of ^{220}Rn that remains. Thoron emanation loss fractions in soil were not found in the literature but were estimated from the ratio of ^{222}Rn-to-^{220}Rn losses found in buildings. The standard value of *F* in buildings is 0.4 for ^{222}Rn, and 0.02 for ^{220}Rn, as reported in EPA (2014) (Question #17). This 0.4/0.02 = 20 ratio of ^{222}Rn-to-^{220}Rn losses results in a value of F = 0.20/20 = 0.01 for ^{220}Rn in soil. Progeny emanation factors are presented in **Table 1**.

2.2 Site Area for Area Correction Adjustment

The default areal extent of the site or contamination (*As*) is 0.5 acres (~ 2,000 m^2) in the PRG calculator. According to the PRG calculator User's Guide, "soil contaminated to a depth greater than about 15 cm and with an aerial extent greater than about 1,000 m^2 will create a radiation field comparable to that of an infinite slab" and therefore the site area for area correction variable (2,000 m^2) was set equal to the areal extent of the contamination (0.5 acres). This is a conservative assumption as it implies that the radionuclide concentration over the entire 0.5 acres is equal to the RG.

2.3 City (or Climatic Zone) Adjustment

The default Climatic Zone is Zone 29 and was changed to Zone 26 for San Francisco, CA.

Table 1. Radionuclide Activities Inputs to EPA PRG Calculator

ROC	Progeny	Branching Fraction	Radon Emanation Factor	PRG Input Activity (Media Concentration) (pCi/g) [1]
Americium (Am)-241 (^{241}Am)		1		1.36
Cesium (Cs)-137 (^{137}Cs)		1		0.113
	Barium (Ba)-137 (^{137m}Ba)	0.944		0.107
Cobalt (Co)-60 (^{60}Co)		1		0.036
Europium (Eu)-152 (^{152}Eu)		1		0.13
Eu-154 (^{154}Eu)		1		0.23
Tritium, H-3 (^{3}H)		1		2.28
Plutonium (Pu)-239 (^{239}Pu		1		2.59
	Uranium (U)-235m (^{235m}U)	0.997		2.58
Radium (Ra)-226 (^{226}Ra)		1		1.00
	Radon (Rn)-222 (^{222}Rn)	1		1.00
	Polonium (Po)-218 (^{218}Po)	1	0.2	0.200
	Lead (Pb)-214 (^{214}Pb)	1	0.2	0.200
	Bismuth (Bi)-214 (^{214}Bi)	1	0.2	0.200
	Polonium (Po)-214 (^{214}Po)	1	0.2	0.200
	Lead (Pb)-210 (^{210}Pb)	0.926	0.2	0.185
	Bismuth (Bi)-210 (^{210}Bi)	0.926	0.2	0.185
	Polonium (Po)-210 (^{210}Po)	0.926	0.2	0.185
Strontium (Sr)-90 (^{90}Sr)		1		0.331
	Yttrium (Y)-90 (^{90}Y)	0.998		0.330
Thorium (Th)-232 (^{232}Th)		1		1.69
	^{228}Ra	1		1.69
	Actinium (Ac)-228 (^{228}Ac)	1		1.69
	^{228}Th	1		1.69
	^{224}Ra	1		1.69
	^{220}Rn	1		1.69
	^{216}Po	1	0.01	0.017
	^{212}Pb	1	0.01	0.017
	^{212}Bi	1	0.01	0.017
	^{212}Po	1	0.01	0.017
	Thallium (Tl)-208 (^{208}Tl)	1	0.01	0.017
Uranium (U)-235 (^{235}U)		1		0.195
	^{231}Th	1		0.195

[1] PRG input activity (pCi/g) = 2006 Soil RG (pCi/g) x branching fraction x radon emanation factor

3 Estimated Excess Cancer Risks at the 2006 Soil Remediation Goals

The resultant excess cancer risks for each ROC, progeny and exposure pathway are presented in **Table 2** were they to be present at the RG under the aforementioned conditions. For each radionuclide chain, the total excess cancer risk is the sum of risks from each pathway and each radionuclide. The total risks fall within, or below, the risk management range for each ROC modeled at the 2006 Soil RG. Note that the RGs are exclusive of (i.e., do not include) radionuclide-specific background concentrations.

Table 2. Estimated Excess Cancer Risks at the 2006 Soil Remediation Goals

ROC	Progeny	Ingestion Risk	Inhalation Risk	External Exposure Risk	Total Risk
^{241}Am		2.75E-07	7.26E-10	2.78E-07	5.5E-07
^{137}Cs		4.05E-09	1.38E-13	3.24E-10	
	^{137m}Ba			5.63E-13	
Total ^{137}Cs					4.4E-09
^{60}Co		4.36E-10	1.48E-14	9.31E-07	9.3E-07
^{152}Eu		1.17E-09	1.99E-13	2.86E-06	2.9E-06
^{154}Eu		2.74E-09	2.86E-13	4.16E-06	4.2E-06
^{3}H		1.21E-10	9.61E-06	0	9.6E-06
^{239}Pu		6.61E-07	2.08E-09	4.68E-09	
	^{235m}U	1.31E-19	1.91E-25		
Total ^{239}Pu					6.7E-7
^{226}Ra		7.54E-07	4.04E-10	1.56E-07	
	^{222}Rn	0	1.91E-17	7.3E-12	
	^{218}Po	0	1.31E-20	3.48E-21	
	^{214}Pb	5.02E-16	6.35E-19	4.06E-12	
	^{214}Bi	1.9E-16	3.75E-19	2.26E-11	
	^{214}Po	0	0	1.67E-22	
	^{210}Pb	2.63E-07	3.14E-11	1.59E-09	
	^{210}Bi	4.1E-12	1E-15	2.93E-12	
	^{210}Po	1.54E-08	8.82E-13	1.43E-12	
Total 226Ra					1.2E-06

Table 2 (continued). Estimated Excess Cancer Risks at the 2006 Soil Remediation Goals

ROC		Progeny	Ingestion Risk	Inhalation Risk	External Exposure Risk
^{90}Sr		2.38E-08	1.51E-12	9.25E-10	
	^{90}Y	7.39E-12	1.63E-17	2.20E-11	
Total ^{90}Sr					2.5E-08
^{232}Th		3.48E-07	1.06E-09	5.23E-09	
	^{228}Ra	1.14E-06	3.25E-10	1.53E-10	
	^{228}Ac	3.63E-13	4.68E-17	1.98E-09	
	^{228}Th	4.88E-08	3.43E-10	7.28E-09	
	^{224}Ra	4.48E-10	1.54E-13	2.42E-10	
	^{220}Rn	0	2.75E-21	3.35E-15	
	^{216}Po	0	0	2.30E-21	
	^{212}Pb	8.07E-14	1.04E-17	3.75E-12	
	^{212}Bi	2.03E-16	1.76E-19	3.93E-13	
	^{212}Po	0	0	0	
	^{208}Tl	0	0	2.63E-13	
Total ^{232}Th					1.6E-06
^{235}U		3.22E-08	7.04E-11	6.72E-07	
	^{231}Th	2.10E-13	6.84E-19	5.95E-12	
Total ^{235}U					7.0E-07

4 Summary

This report describes the estimated excess cancer risks associated with residential exposures to radionuclide-contaminated surface soils at the former HPNS. The excess cancer risks (**Table 2**) from resident exposures to soils contaminated at concentrations equal to the 2006 RGs are demonstrated to be within, or below, the CERCLA risk management range of 10^{-4} to 10^{-6}.

5 References

United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). 2014. *Radiation Risk Assessment at CERCLA Sites: Q & A*. Directive 9200.4-40. Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation. Washington, DC. May.

Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC), Southwest. 2006. *Final – Basewide Radiological Removal Action: Action Memorandum – Revision 2006, Hunters Point Shipyard, San Francisco, CA*. April.

United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). 1991. Role of the Baseline Risk Assessment in Superfund Remedy Selection Decisions. OSWER DIRECTIVE 9355.0-30. April 22.

Attachments

EPA PRG Calculator output for ^{241}Am, ^{60}Co, ^{152}Eu, ^{154}Eu and ^{3}H: *Resident_rad_prg_22OCT2018_Am Co Eu H_2000 m2 ACF_no cover_SFO at RGs.pdf*

EPA PRG Calculator output for ^{137}Cs, ^{239}Pu, ^{90}Sr and ^{235}U: *Resident_rad_prg_22OCT2018_Cs Sr Pu U_2000 m2 ACF_no cover_SFO at RGs.pdf*

EPA PRG Calculator output for ^{226}Ra: *Resident_rad_prg_22OCT2018_Ra_2000 m2 ACF_no cover_SFO at RGs.pdf*

EPA PRG Calculator output for ^{232}Th: *Resident_rad_prg_22OCT2018_Th_2000 m2 ACF_no cover_SFO at RGs.pdf*